

RICHLAND COUNTY TRANSPORTATION PENNY PROGRAM 2015 Annual



Report





### RICHLAND COUNTY TRANSPORTATION PENNY PROGRAM

**2015 Annual Report** 

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# PROGRAM

In November 2012, voters in Richland County approved the Transportation Penny Program. This program has three major categories and is funded by a special sales and use tax for not more than 22 years or until a total of \$1.07 billion in sales tax revenue is collected, whichever occurs first.

#### The major categories include:



Improvements to highways, roads (paved and unpaved), streets, intersections, and bridges including related drainage system improvements \$656,020,644





Improvements to pedestrian sidewalks, bike paths, intersections and greenways \$80,888,356.

Continued operation of mass transit services provided by The Comet

including implementation of near, mid

and long-term service improvements

\$300,991,000

**MILESTONES** 

**APRIL 2013** The Transportation Penny Advisory Committee (TPAC) appointed by Council

MAY 2013 Sales tax collections begin

**FEBRUARY 2014** Cooperative Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the County and SCDOT approved

**JULY 2014** Program Development Team Notice of Intent to Award issued

**AUGUST 2014** Richland Penny Office established

**OCTOBER 2014** Project rankings approved by Council

**NOVEMBER 2014** Program Development Team full contract approved

**DECEMBER 2014** 2015 County Transportation Improvement Program (CTIP) approved by Council

**DECEMBER 2014** Dirt Road Paving Limited **Notice to Proceed** 

**JANUARY 2015** State of the Penny Address

# Congaree National Park **GREENWAYS**

### RICHLAND PENNY PROGRAM PROJECTS BY THE NUMBERS

















# PROGRAM DELIVERY & STRUCTURE

### **Program Development Team (PDT)**

is led by M.B. Kahn, ICA Engineering and Brownstone.
There are:

### 13 TOTAL FIRMS and 7 SLBE FIRMS THE PDT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:

Program Development
Public Involvement

Public Involvement
Environmental Permitting

ın

Quality Assurance Reviews Project Coordination Right-of-Way Acquisition

Proposal Preparation and Procurement Construction Services
Utility Coordination

### **Dirt Road Teams**

The Dennis Corporation is the lead firm managing design of 108 dirt roads within the program.

6 TOTAL FIRMS 6 SLBE FIRMS

## 5 Design Teams Council selected five teams

to design a majority of the program's projects. The lead firms of those teams are CECS, Cox and Dinkins, Holt Consulting, Mead & Hunt, and Parrish & Partners. Those five lead firms have several firms working on their teams.

**32 TOTAL FIRMS 16 SLBE FIRMS** 

The Richland County Transportation Department manages the Richland Penny program. In 2014, Richland County Council hired a team of firms known as the Program Development Team (PDT) to manage the design, construction, and delivery of the transportation projects. The county also hired a team of firms to manage the countywide Dirt Road projects. The On-Call Engineering Team's (OET), also referred to as Design Teams, were selected by Council to assist with the design of various projects of the Penny program.



### ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE:

- Mitigation Bank
- SCDOT Agreement
- Validated Project Scopes and Updated Cost Estimates
- More than \$30 million in construction contracts awarded
- Completed evaluating and prioritizing all 550 miles of County paved roads for resurfacing
- Prepared Program Policy Manuals: Right of Way, Utility, Procurement, Accounting
- County Transportation Improvement Program
- 76 Roads Paved or Resurfaced

# INVOIVEMENT

The Public Involvement team manages all aspects of public information for the Richland Penny Program. Those responsibilities include issuing press releases, media alerts, coordinating public meetings, planning speaker's bureau, and consulting and advising project managers on community presentations. These are just a few duties to ensure Richland County residents, businesses and other stakeholders are fully informed, have access to key decision makers and most importantly, provide input as projects are being designed, constructed and completed.

> Since Fall 2014, Public Involvement has informed, engaged and educated **Richland County residents on** Richland Penny projects.

**Project Specific Public Meetings** 

> Speaking **Presentations**

**Internship Program** Launched March 2015

**Interns Participated** in the Program

**36,878**Website

**Visits** 

**Citizen Participants** 



**Other Public Involvement Deliverables** 

**Program Branding Website Development Social Media Presence** - Facebook, Twitter, YouTube Watch our video on how the

**Dirt Road Program** 

is impacting Richland County residents:

youtu.be/c3W-ZXgieXQ



# FINANCE

\$127M SALES TAX COLLECTIONS

BOND PROCEEDS

\$6.7M MITIGATION BANK

\$34 M DISBURSED TO COMET

PROGRAM EXPENDITURES

PROJECT EXPENDITURES

-\$8.5M DESIGN

-\$318K RIGHT-OF-WAY

- \$11M construction





\$127M



# SLBE SIGURES

The purpose of the Small Local Business Enterprises (SLBE) Program is to provide a race- and gender-neutral procurement tool for the County to use in its efforts to ensure that all segments of its local business community have a reasonable and significant opportunity to participate in County contracts for construction, architectural & engineering services, professional services, non-professional services, and commodities. The Program also furthers the County's public interest to foster effective broad-based competition from all segments of the vendor community, including, but not limited to, minority business enterprises, small business enterprises, and local business enterprises.

# **33 SLBE**FIRMS ARE PARTICIPATING IN RICHLAND PENNY PROGRAM CONTRACTS

80 SLBE FIRMS HAVE BEEN CERTIFIED TO DATE

\$18.2M
HAS BEEN AWARDED
TO SLBE FIRMS TO DATE

\$6.8M

HAS BEEN PAID TO

SLBE FIRMS TO DATE

# COMPLETED PROJECTS



#### **31 DIRT ROADS**

# 45 RESURFACING PROJECTS



# THE COMET

A major turning point for **The COMET** was when the Richland County Transportation Penny Program passed and more than 24,000 hours of service were returned to The COMET program with its first-ever dedicated funding. Before the Penny tax was implemented, transit in the Midlands was in great financial difficulty, which resulted in a 45 percent reduction in service hours.







#### **AMENITIES**

The final improvements aided by the Penny's funding were aesthetic and functionality improvements to the vehicles and amenities of The COMET. The COMET bus stops were improved making them highly-visible and recognizable. The COMET was also able to secure a propane fueling station and eleven propane-powered buses that burn clean and help the agency to lower fuel costs.

# SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS

The Penny has provided The COMET with the financial means to implement a number of service improvements. These improvements included a rural route in Route 13 - NE Flex, doubling the weekend service by adding 100 percent of Saturday hours, a downtown loop in The Orbit route and The Garnet route for USC's off-campus students

In all, this added 28,000 annual hours of service to a total of 150,000 annual hours, which is almost 150 percent more service than at The COMET's lowest point.

Ridership has increased 136% since the passage of the Penny.

#### NEW TECHNOLOGY

The COMET also added two new technologies to make riding more enjoyable. Catch the COMET app is a live vehicle tracking system that allows passengers to track in real time and receive alerts when a bus arrives or departs from any location in the county. The app is available on desktop computers, laptops, tablets and smartphones. The COMET also uses Passport, which allows passengers to pay for fares on their smartphone.



# S LOOK AHEAD



## CONSTRUCTION TO BE COMPLETED WITHIN 6 MONTHS:

Summit Parkway and Summit
Ridge Drive Intersection
Riverbanks Zoo TransportationRelated Projects 1
Innovista Greene Street Phase 1
Lincoln Tunnel Greenway
Various Sidewalks, Bikeways,
Resurfacing Projects and
Dirt Road Paving Projects

### CONSTRUCTION TO BE STARTED WITHIN 12 MONTHS:

#### **TOTALING APPROXIMATELY \$110 MILLION**

Bluff Road Widening Phase 1
Hardscrabble Road Widening
Shop Road Extension Phase 1
Three Rivers Greenway Extension Phase 1
North Main Street (Phases IA2 & III; II & IV) Widening
Broad River Road and Rushmore Road Intersection
Clemson Road and Rhame Road/North Springs Road Intersection
Farrow Road and Pisgah Church Road Intersection
Kennerly Road and Coogler Road/Steeple Ridge Road Intersection
North Springs Road and Risdon Way Intersection
Broad River Neighborhood Improvements
Various Sidewalks, Bikeways, Dirt Road Projects and Resurfacing Projects

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